

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A composite apparatus, comprising:

plurality of processing means each having an
independent timer for judging whether or not the timer
5 is placed in a sleep state; and

control means for, when one processing means is
placed in a sleep state, checking whether or not
another processing means is ready, and, when it is
checked that such a processing means is ready,
10 controlling all the ready timers of the processing
means to be placed in a sleep state in synchronism with
a timer of one processing means.

2. A composite apparatus according to claim 1,
wherein said control means further comprises an
15 operating state sensing means for sensing an operating
state of each processing means, and it is checked by
the operating state sensing means as to whether or not
processing means is ready.

3. A composite apparatus according to claim 1,
20 wherein, when said processing means has its own
internal control means, the internal control means
control each processing means to be placed in a sleep
state.

4. A composite apparatus according to claim 1,
25 wherein, when said processing means has its own
internal control means, communication is made between
the internal control means and said control means, and

it is judged whether or not the processing section can be placed in a sleep state based on the result.

5. A composite apparatus comprising:

5 a power circuit configured to supplying power to each section;

a scanner section configured to reading a manuscript, thereby acquiring manuscript image data;

a printer engine configured to carrying out print processing;

10 a facsimile device;

a printer controller having its own control section; and

a system controller for, when one processing section of one of the scanner section printer engine, facsimile device, and printer controller is placed in a sleep state, checking whether or not another processing section is ready, and, in the case that it is checked that another processing section is ready, synchronizing all timers of the other processing sections that are ready with a timer of such one processing section, thereby controlling the power circuit to be driven, and controlling the processing sections to be placed in a sleep state.

6. A composite apparatus according to claim 5, wherein, when said printer controller is placed in a sleep state, a system controller makes predetermined communication with a control section inside of the

printer controller, and then, places the printer controller in a sleep state based on the result.

7. A method of controlling a composite apparatus having a plurality of processing means, comprising the steps of:

when one of a plurality of processing means is placed in a sleep state, checking whether or not another processing means is ready;

when it is checked that such another processing means is ready, synchronizing all the timers of the processing means that are ready with a timer of such one processing means; and

placing such one processing means and processing means that is ready in a sleep state.

8. A method of controlling a composite apparatus according to claim 7, further comprising the step of, in the case where said processing means has its own unique internal control means, making communication between the internal control means and said control means, and then, judging whether or not the processing means can be placed in a sleep state based on the result.